

# 02 Cultures and Holidays

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Full Year**  
Length: **1/2 Trimester**  
Status: **Published**

## General Overview, Course Description or Course Philosophy

---

The Kindergarten Cultures and Holiday Unit is designed to provide learners with the knowledge, skills and perspective needed to understand that cultures celebrate different holidays. Students will be able to develop a class chart of celebrated holidays while comparing and contrasting holiday traditions. Lessons are aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and will infuse technology, ELA and Math within projects, activities, and written products.

## OBJECTIVES, ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS, ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS

---

### Enduring Understandings:

- People come from different cultures.
- Some cultures have different holidays, food and clothing.

### Essential Questions:

- What national holidays do we recognize and why do we celebrate these holidays?
- What are other holidays that different cultures celebrate?
- What are the similarities and differences between holidays?

## CONTENT AREA STANDARDS

---

SOC.6.1.2.CivicsDP.3

Explain how historical symbols, monuments and holidays reflect the shared values, principles, and beliefs of the American identity.

Respecting and understanding the views of others helps one learn about various perspectives, thoughts, and cultures.

SOC.6.1.2.HistoryUP.2

Use evidence to demonstrate how an individual's beliefs, values, and traditions may change and/or reflect more than one culture.

## RELATED STANDARDS (Technology, 21st Century Life & Careers, ELA Companion Standards are Required)

---

MA.K.CC.B.4b

Understand that the last number name said tells the number of objects counted. The

	number of objects is the same regardless of their arrangement or the order in which they were counted.
LA.RI.K.2	With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
LA.W.K.7	Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of books by a favorite author and express opinions about them).
WRK.K-12.P.1	Act as a responsible and contributing community members and employee.
TECH.9.4.2.IML.1	Identify a simple search term to find information in a search engine or digital resource.
TECH.9.4.2.IML.3	Use a variety of sources including multimedia sources to find information about topics such as climate change, with guidance and support from adults (e.g., 6.3.2.GeoGl.2, 6.1.2.HistorySE.3, W.2.6, 1-LSI-2).

## **STUDENT LEARNING TARGETS**

---

### **Declarative Knowledge**

---

Students will understand that:

- There are certain customs and holidays that are celebrated in America.
- Different cultures celebrate different Holidays.
- Different cultures have different traditions, clothing and customs.
- There are similarities and differences between cultures.

### **Procedural Knowledge**

---

Students will be able to:

- Identify National holidays such as: Columbus Day, Election Day, Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King Jr., Presidents' Day, Earth Day, Flag Day, and Memorial Day.
- Explain who Christopher Columbus was.
- Explain the importance of these holidays and why we celebrate them.
- Name the different customs that families celebrate.
- Describe the different foods and clothing that support different cultures.
- Survey the holiday practices of classmates.
- Develop a visual representation of survey findings.
- Write a shared writing piece expressing a holiday that each family celebrates.
- Discuss ways to preserve the Earth.

## **EVIDENCE OF LEARNING**

---

### Alternate Assessments

- Portfolios
- Verbal Assessment (instead of written)
- Multiple choice
- Modified Rubrics
- Performance Based Assessments

## **Benchmark Assessments**

---

- Benchmark Assessments using Pear Assessments three times per year

## **Formative Assessments**

---

- KWL Chart
- Class Discussions
- Student Activities
- Visual representation depicting class holidays celebrated
- Teacher Observations

Alternative:

- Exit Slips

## **Summative Assessments**

---

- Holiday Matching Activity
- Class Shared Writing piece with different holidays students celebrate

## **RESOURCES (Instructional, Supplemental, Intervention Materials)**

---

## Core:

- Scholastic News: Traditions
- Studies Weekly
- A Picture Book of Christopher Columbus, David A. Adler
- Young Christopher Columbus, Discoverer of New Worlds, Eric Carpenter
- Election Day, Robin Hill School, Margaret McNamara
- Election Day, Mir Tamim Ansary
- Election Day, Margaret McNamara
- Election Day, Patricia Murphy
- The Story of Thanksgiving, Nancy J. Skarneas
- Samuel Eaton's Day, A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Boy, Kate Waters
- Sarah Morton's Day, A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl, Kate Waters
- Young Abraham Lincoln, Log-Cabin President, Andrew Woods
- Just Like Abraham Lincoln, Bernard Waber
- Young George Washington, America's First President, Andrew Woods
- The Story of Martin Luther King Jr., Johnny Ray Moore
- Martin's Big Words, The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Doreen Rappaport
- Earth Day, Linda Lowery
- The Earth and I, Frank Asch
- Memorial Day, Lloyd G. Douglas
- Flag Day, Leslie Kaplan

## Supplemental:

- Diwali is Here Song: <http://www.viewpure.com/fTkUj6H0G3A?start=0&end=0>
- Holidays Around the Word Read Aloud <http://www.viewpure.com/3Sv0ac-W8Vc?start=0&end=0>
- Rashad's Ramadan Read Aloud (EPIC)
- It's Hanukkah Read Aloud (EPIC)
- Chelsea's Chinese New Year Read Aloud (EPIC)

## **INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS**

---

- Math: Data Collection/Analysis
- Technology/Multimedia: Google, Educational Tech Applications
- English/Language Arts: Information Writing

## **ACCOMMODATIONS & MODIFICATIONS FOR SUBGROUPS**

---

See link to Accommodations & Modifications document in course folder.

- Allow verbal responses

- Cooperative learning opportunities
- Utilize illustrations to reflect understanding
- Use of technology and songs
- Provide opportunities to collaborate with peers
- Sentence starters
- Shared Writing